

REMARKS

Claims 1-145 are pending in the instant application. Claims 1-145 have been rejected by the Examiner. Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 8, 10, 12, 17, 20, 23, 24, 25, 27, 29, 31, 32, 34-36, 38, 40, 42, 47, 48, 50, 56-61, 63, 65, 67-69, 71-73, 75, 77, 79, 84, 85, 87, 93-104, 106, 108-111, 113, 115, 117, 118, 120-124, 126-136, 138, and 140-145 have been amended. Claims 54, 55, 91, and 92 have been cancelled. The Applicants submit that claims 1-53, 56-90, and 93-145 are in condition for allowance and request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections. No new matter has been entered.

Claim Rejections Under- 35 USC § 112

Claims 3-7, 11, 23-27, 32-38, 41-42, 54-55, 59-63, 69-75, 78-79, 91-92, 98-100, 102 - 103, 109-113, 118-122, 128-130, and 132 -136 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being allegedly indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The Applicants have amended claims 1, 2, 4-6, 8, 10, 12, 17, 20, 23, 24, 25, 27, 29, 31, 32, 34-36, 38, 40, 42, 47, 48, 50, 56-61, 63, 65, 67-69, 71-73, 75, 77, 79, 84, 85, 87, 93-104, 106, 108-111, 113, 115, 117, 118, 120-124, 126-136, 138, and 140-145 and submit that the claims are fully compliant with 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph and respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC § 102

Claims 1-145 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being allegedly anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 6,735,489 to Khurana. The Applicants respectfully traverse the outstanding rejections.

Applicants' amended claim 1 recites, in part, "generating an alternate master process model comprising virtual machining a manufacturing feature for alternate operations into an extracted 3-D model, the extracted 3-D taken from the master process model, said manufacturing feature for alternate operations exhibiting an associative relationship with said coordinate system; wherein said generating an alternate master process model follows virtual machining of said master process model; and generating a second set of machining

instructions to create said actual part by machining said manufacturing feature for alternate operations into said blank.” While Khurana does disclose similar features to those recited in claim 1, Khurana fails to teach generating an alternate master process model as provided in Applicants’ claim 1. At least for this reason, the Applicants’ claim 1 is not anticipated by Khurana. Claims 31, 68, 108, 117, 127, and 140-145 recite substantially similar features as those provided in Applicants’ claim 1. For at least this reason, the Applicants submit that claims 31, 68, 108, 117, 127, and 140-145 are also not anticipated by Khurana. Claims 2-30, 32-53, and 56-67 depend from what should be an allowable claim 1. Claims 69-90 and 93-107 depend from what should be an allowable claim 68. Claims 109-116 depend from what should be an allowable claim 108. Claims 118-126 depend from what should be an allowable claim 117. Claims 128-139 depend from what should be an allowable claim 127. For at least the aforementioned reasons, the Applicants submit that claims 2-53, 56-90, and 93-145 are in condition for allowance and respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections.

The applied reference has a common inventor with the instant application. Based upon the earlier effective U.S. filing date of the reference, it constitutes prior art under 35 U.S.C. 102(e). This rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) might be overcome either by a showing under 37 CFR 1.132 that any invention disclosed but not claimed in the reference was derived from the inventor of this application and is thus not the invention “by another” or by an appropriate showing under 37 CFR 1.131.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC § 103

Claims 1-145 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 6,629,065 to Gadh in view of U.S. Pat. No. 4,928,221 to Belkhiter.

Claims 1-145 have also been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 6,629,065 to Gadh in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,430,455 to Rebello. The Applicants respectfully traverse the outstanding rejections. There is simply no teaching among any of these references that which is recited in Applicants’ claim 1, namely,

“generating an alternate master process model comprising virtual machining a manufacturing feature for alternate operations into an extracted 3-D model, the extracted 3-D taken from the master process model, said manufacturing feature for alternate operations exhibiting an associative relationship with said coordinate system; wherein said generating an alternate master process model follows virtual machining of said master process model; and generating a second set of machining instructions to create said actual part by machining said manufacturing feature for alternate operations into said blank.” While the Examiner indicates that said features are disclosed in Gadh, citing Figures 1-6, column 2 lines 7-65, column 8 lines 11-41 and lines 50-67, and column 9 line 1 – column 10 line 17, the Applicants were remiss in locating said features.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that the foregoing amendments and remarks fully comply with the Office Action and that the claims herein should now be allowable to Applicants. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance is requested. It is submitted that the foregoing amendments and remarks should render the case in condition for allowance.

If there are any additional charges with respect to this Amendment or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 06-1130.

Respectfully submitted,

DIANE M. LANDERS, ET AL.

CANTOR COLBURN LLP
Applicant's Attorneys

By Marisa J. Dubuc
Marisa J. Dubuc
Registration No. 46,673
Customer No. 22851

Date: January 6, 2006
Address: 55 Griffin Road South
Bloomfield, CT 06002
Telephone: (860) 286-2929
Fax: (860) 286-0115